## NEWS RELEASE

## Hon. Robert T. Matsui

Member of Congress

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## MATSUI: HOUSE APPROVES FINAL STEP FOR SACRAMENTO FLOOD PROTECTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) announced today the full House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved a package of crucial flood control projects for Sacramento. For the first time, Sacramento will receive funding for the construction of the Folsom Dam Mini-Raise and for a permanent bridge to replace the Folsom Dam Road. It also includes over \$19 million for ongoing flood control priorities in the district.

"This is truly an historic victory for Sacramento," Matsui said. "Building the mini-raise is the final step in protecting the city and its residents from catastrophic flooding. For the indefinite future, Sacramento will have the long-sought flood protection it needs and deserves."

These projects were included in the FY 2004 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill conference report, which passed today by a vote of 387-36. The bill must now be approved by the full Senate, and signed by the President.

A major flood in Sacramento could impact over \$37 billion of property including the California State Capitol, six major hospitals, 26 nursing home facilities, over 100 schools, 3 major freeway systems, and approximately 160,000 homes or apartments.

The flood control package includes:

- \$221 million for the construction of the Folsom Dam Mini-Raise, which is designed to allow the flood system to handle a storm far great than any recorded event in the history of the watershed
- \$66 million to design and construct a permanent bridge downstream of Folsom Dam to replace the Folsom Dam Road, which was closed in February due to security concerns
- \$4 million in guaranteed federal funding (or "new start") for the construction of the Folsom Dam Mini-Raise, \$600,000 of which is designated to build a new bridge over the American River
- \$4 million for levee improvements along the American River
- \$4 million to modify the Folsom Dam for greater flood management and storage efficiency
- \$3.5 million to prevent flooding from South Sacramento Streams
- \$2 million to correct erosion along the banks of the American and Sacramento Rivers
- \$1.5 million to evaluate flood damage reduction and economic restoration in California's Central Valley
- \$50,000 for a feasibility study on restoring 100-year flood protection to the Chicken Ranch Slough drainage to the American River